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REPORT

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THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

-for-

-the-

URBAN DISTRICT OF HORNSEA

YEAR, 1949.

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HORNSEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1949.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of Hornsea.

Sir, or Madam,

I beg to present my Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health for the year ended 31st December, 1949.

The vital statistics reveal little change in the birth and death rates for the district which shew a small decrease compared with last year. The Registrar-General's estimation of the population for mid-1949 shews a ten per cent increase on the preceding year and it is of some interest to record that for the decade 1938/47 our population, as computed by the data available, was practically stationary.

The incidence of notifiable disease was light throughout the year. During the first half of the year a few cases, chiefly measles and whooping cough, occurred, the last quarter being practically free from infectious disease.

Rainfall. The year was a dry one, the rainfall being well below the average - 18.22 inches. In the first half of the year the rainfall was only 6.55 ins. whereas that of the last quarter was 7.18 ins.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area3437.73 acres inclusive of inland water.
Resident Population as computed by the Registrar-General mid-1949 - 5380.
Number of inhabited houses - 2129
Rateable Value - £39576.
Sum represented by a penny rate - £154.14.5d.

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	Total.	M.	F.
Live Births.	66	28	38
Legitimate.	65	27	38
Illegitimate	1	1	0
Still Births.	1	0	1

Birth rate per 1000 estimated population - 12.3
Birth rate per 1000 total (live and still births) - 12.4
Birth rate for England and Wales per 1000 estimated population - 16.7

	Total.	M.	F.
Deaths	82	41	41

Death rate per 1000 estimated population - 15.2
Death Rate for England and Wales per 1000 estimated population - 11.7
Deaths from puerperal sepsis - 0
Deaths from other puerperal causes - 0
Deaths from cancer - 14
Deaths from measles - 0
Deaths from whooping cough - 0
Deaths from diarrhoea under two years - 0
Deaths of infants under 1 year - 0

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

The important changes inaugurated by the National Health Service, outlined in my last annual report, have operated satisfactorily during the short time which has elapsed since its inception.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water. Water is purchased in bulk from the Hull Corporation and is distributed by the Council.

The consumption during 1949 was 61,135,000 gallons, a daily

average of 167,500 gallons, which is equivalent to 31 gallons per head of population per day.

Two bacteriological examinations of the piped supply were carried out during the year both being found satisfactory.

All the houses in the district are provided with a piped supply.

A shortage of water was experienced during the months of October-December, and it was necessary to shut off the supply from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. on two nights per week.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The sewers on the Hornsea Burton Housing Site have been extended as the erection of further houses has made necessary.

The proposed new outfall sewer works made no progress during the year, owing at first to the difficulty experienced in obtaining pipes of the requisite size, and later to a Ministry of Health decision to defer the scheme on the grounds of national economy. The sewer was in a seriously defective condition disgorging its contents over the beach at low states of the tide to the consternation and embarrassment of those responsible for the health and well-being of the district.

Recently, further strong representations have lead to the decision to defer the scheme being revoked and it is hoped that the works will commence in the Spring of 1951 when sufficient pipes may have accumulated at the site.

Public Cleansing.

All the house refuse is disposed of by incineration, the material being collected by motor transport at approximately weekly intervals.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

	Inspections	No. in District
Bakehouses	5 ...	4
Drainage Works	82	
Rats and Mice	41	
Shops	15 ...	133
Water Supplies	421	
Dwelling Houses	435 ...	1874
Food Premises	65	
Moveable Dwellings ...	729 ...	600

Camping Sites.

Number of sites in the area which were used for camping purposes during the year	6
Number of camping sites in respect of which licences have been issued by the Local Authority under Section 269, Public Health Act, 1936	6
Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time during the summer season	2200
Estimated number of caravans, sheds, etc. which were used as permanent dwellings in the area	80

The three camping sites on the South Cliff have no sewerage system. The dwellings, of which there are approximately 250, are each provided with a chemical closet, the contents being disposed of by the proprietor.

Schools.

The sanitary accommodation at the Mereside County Primary School was unsatisfactory and in some respects obsolete. The defects have been brought to the notice of the East Riding County Council.

Housing.

Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	196
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	205
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932	0
(3)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2
(4)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	17

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	155

Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	15
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices.	
(a) By Owners	16
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	0

(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	21
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.	
(a) By Owners	16
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	3

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0

(2) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 0

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... 1

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit 1

New Houses.

The end of the year saw the Council's estate of 202 houses as originally planned approaching completion. The six shops, very attractively sited in the centre of the estate, alone remains to complete the scheme. Despite delays due to shortage of materials, slowing of work due to inclement weather and many other hindrances the work has proceeded expeditiously and the scheme has transformed a few acres of poor pasture land into a very desirable residential area the like of which would be difficult to find in a small urban district.

(a) Total number of applicants for Council Houses at end of year 349

(b) Number of new houses erected between the end of the war and the end of 1949 by :-

	TYPE		
	Temporary	Permanent	Number of units of accommodation provided by camp conversions.
(1) Local Authority	15	196	0
(2) Private Enterprise	0	31	0

(c) Houses completed during year.

	TYPE		
	Prefabricated		Permanent
	Temporary	Permanent	
By Local Authority	0	0	70
By Private Enterprise	0	0	8

(d) Houses in course of erection at end of year.

	TYPE		
	Prefabricated		Permanent
	Temporary	Permanent	
By Local Authority	0	0	12
By Private Enterprise	0	0	16

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply.

Number of cowkeepers on the register	6
Number of inspections of cowsheds up to 30th September	9
Number of cowkeepers (other than cowkeepers) on the register ...	5
Number of inspections of dairy premises	7

Contraventions of Milk and Dairies Orders.

	Found during period	Remedied during period	Outstanding end of year
Cleansing	-	-	-
Structural Alterations	1	1	-
Utensils	-	-	-
Other matters	-	-	-

Ice Cream Premises.

Number of manufacturers of ice-cream 1
Number of inspections of ice-cream premises 15

Notifiable Diseases during the year 1949.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	2	2	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Enteric Fever	0	0	0
Pneumonia	2	0	0
Other diseases generally notifiable :-			
(a) Measles	9	0	0
(b) Whooping Cough	12	0	0

Diphtheria Immunisation.

(a) Children immunised in the district since immunisation began :-

CHILDREN BORN IN :-							Total under 15 years.
1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1940-1944	1935-1939	
4	42	72	29	22	206	20	395

(b) Children immunised during 1949 (figures included in totals under (a))

Under 5 years	67
Between 5 and 14 years ...	3
Boosting doses	92

Children are immunised by the general practitioners, at the schools, or in the clinic.

Tuberculosis.

Only two cases of the disease have come to notice during the year, both otherwise than by formal notification. The number of cases on the register now stands at a total of 15.

Your obedient Servant,

L. FRENCH. B.Sc., M.B., B.S. (Lond.)
(Medical Officer of Health)

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